# The Recipe for Gertrude

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(only I can do that!)

thanks!

also, don't resize credits part and don't post on online albums!

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***take care.***

# The RECIPE for GERTRUDE

By Nari Kusakawa

Volume 2

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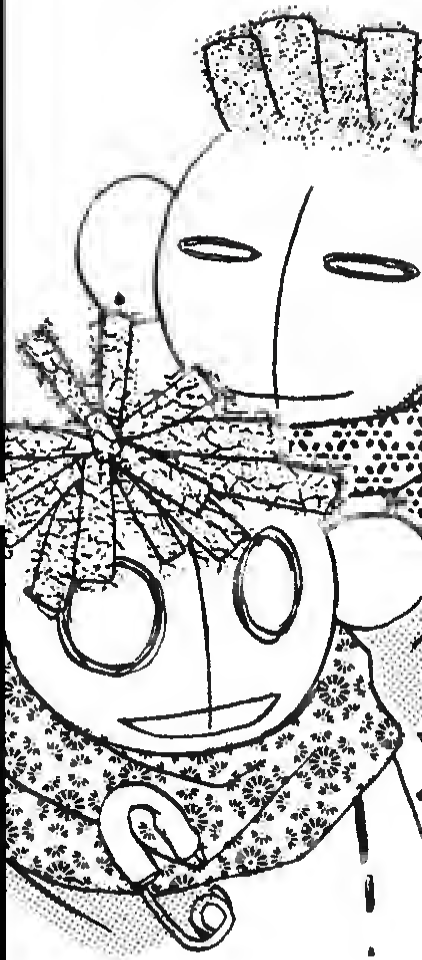
## STORY SO FAR

Gartrude, a 100-year-old manmade demon (who looks pretty good for his age), met Sahara, a girl who is not quite as normal as she seems. Gertrude was built from the stolen parts of various other demons, and some of them want those parts back. He (yes, Gartrude's a guy) figures that he won't find any peace until he locates and destroys the "recipe" that was used to make him. Gartrude's not the only one trying to find it, but at least he has Sahara and a couple of funny looking demons named Puppan and Mariotte to help him.



The RECIPE for GERTRUDE
Chapter 5

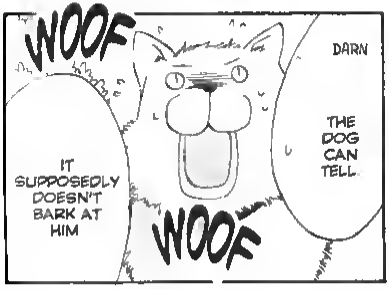
WHILE LOOKING FOR THE INSTRUCTION MANUAL ON HOW TO MAKE A MANMADE DEMON...
"THE RECIPE FOR GERTRUDE..."
...I BECAME INVOLVED WITH AN EXTRA-ORDINARY PERSON.
HEY, SUSUGI, HERE'S LUNCH.
IT'S YOUR BROTHER. SOMETHING'S NOT QUITE RIGHT.

GOOD THING YOU WEREN'T HURT WORSE
THAT'S RIGHT
GERTRUDE SAVED MY LIFE
COME ON IT'S THE BEST I CAN DO
IT'S MISO FLAVOR TODAY
MOM'S NOT AROUND DURING THE DAY
IT'D BE NOODLES EVEN IF DAD WERE HERE
JUST AS USELESS
WAUGH!
NOODLES?! AGAIN?!
EASY NO INCLINATION TO STUDY NEW RECIPI
ANY-THING OTHER THAN NOODLES PLEASE
GRUMBLE GRUMBLE
I'M ONLY DOING IT BECAUSE I DON'T HAVE TO BE AT THE UNIVERSITY RIGHT NOW
YOU SHOULD BE GRATEFUL YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE DOING THIS YOURSELF
I THOUGHT YOU WERE DEAD WHEN THAT ELEVATOR FELL
COMPLAINTS, COMPLAINTS
STILL, I'M GLAD YOU CAN EVEN COMPLAIN

I'M STUCK AT HOME, RECOVERING.
BUT, I STILL BROKE BOTH LEGS
すビーーーん
TOTAL BUMMER
PEOPLE ALWAYS START TO FEEL THE PAIN LATER.
YOU CAME DOWN HARD.
YOU DIDN'T REALIZE IT AT THE TIME.
GLASSES FOGGED OVER
I THOUGHT I JUST BANGED MY ARM.
MY LEGS SEEMED OKAY.
BUT, THEY WERE ACTUALLY BROKEN?
TOTALLY WEIRD
OH
IT HAPPENS A LOT IN ACCIDENTS, SO IT PAYS TO BE CAREFUL
MY BROTH-ER...

HE HASN'T ACTED ANY DIFFERENTLY IN THE PAST TWO WEEKS, THOUGH
IS HE REALLY HIDING THE RECIPE SOMEWHERE?
I CAN'T SAY FOR SURE
.....
HE HASN'T CALLED IN TWO WEEKS! THAT'S NEVER HAPPENED BEFORE!
I WONDER WHAT HE'S UP TO

CLOP
CLOP
CLOP
GASP
HEY, YOU'RE NOT EATING
ALL RIGHT
I'LL TRY TO MAKE SOMETHING DIFFERENT TOMORROW
I GUESS YOU CAN ONLY EAT INSTANT NOODLES SO OFTEN
IT'S NOT THAT BUT
HMM...
SUGGEST SOMETHING I MIGHT BE ABLE TO MAKE


WOOF
WOOF
IT SUPPOSEDLY DOESN'T BARK AT HIM
DARN
THE DOG CAN TELL

THIS IT?
SUSUGI

NO!
PUPPEN, WE'RE PRETENDING TO BE HUMANS, SO ACT LIKE ONE! ALL RIGHT?
CAN I EAT?
OF ALL THE DOGS, NOT HERS!
AND STOP DROOLING!
DON'T WORRY, I KNOW WE'RE PRETENDING TO BE HER FRIENDS FROM SCHOOL.
WE ARE?
WOOF
WOOF
WOOF
WOOF
WOOF
SO, DON'T BLOW IT
REMEMBER, WE'RE HUMAN FRIENDS DROPPING BY TO SEE HOW SHE'S DOING
GASP!
WAUGH!
IT'S A--!
GACHA
OKAY THEN!
NOT GOOD!
OH

WOOF
OOPS
POOF!!
OH-OH! LET'S GET OUTTA HERE!
IT'S A BARRIER TO WARD OFF EVIL SPIRITS
PLOP
WOOF
WOOF
POOF
WOOF
WAS THAT A RACCOON?
WOOF
WOOF
A BAR-RIER?
THAT'S BEING EXTRA CAREFUL.

WE HAVE CAKE FOR TEA TODAY
THAT'S A DEAD GIVEAWAY HE'S UP TO SOMETHING.
SO, WHY'D HE STILL PUT IT UP?
YUM
YUM
NOT THAT IT SEEMS TO BOTHER YOU.
YEAH IT LOOKS IT.
I'D SAY SAHARA'S BROTHER CONSIDERS YOU A SERIOUS THREAT.
KOC
WHAT DID YOU DO?
NAH. CAN'T BE
HE MAY HAVE FIGURED OUT I WAS THE ONE WHO STOPPED THE ELEVATOR.
WE MADE EYE CONTACT.
I DON'T NEED YOU TELLING ME THAT
BUT, THAT WAS A GOOD THING
ANY-THING ELSE?
IT MAKES YOU UNFIT TO BE A DEMON, THOUGH.
MAYBE THE RECIPE IS SOME-WHERE IN THE HOUSE.
OR, HE'S WORRIED YOU MIGHT KIDNAP SAHARA.
IN ANY CASE, IT'S REALLY TENSE THERE

WHAT, YOU'RE SAYING HE FEELS THREAT-ENED?
ANY IDEAS?
ANY-THING AT ALL?
I MEAN, MAYBE YOU GOT TOO CLOSE TO A SECRET OR SOMETHING
CLAUDE--THE GUY WHO MADE YOU-- AND SUSUGI'S BROTHER ARE SOMEHOW CONNECTED?
YOU REALLY THINK SO?
YEAH.
THERE WAS A RESEM-BLANCE.
SAHARA HASN'T BEEN OUT OF HER HOUSE FOR TWO WHOLE WEEKS NOW.
BUT SUPPOSE HE DOES, THOUGH.
IT DOESN'T CHANGE THE FACT I CAN'T DO ANYTHING UNTIL I KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON
SNEAKED INTO SAHARA'S SCHOOL AS HUMANS.
AT SCHOOL, THEY'RE SAYING SHE'S STAYING HOME BECAUSE SHE BROKE BOTH LEGS IN THAT ACCIDENT

01
THIS IS VOLUME TWO
I quit my part-time job and became an artist full time. My health suffered for it. I've never ever been fit, but it's pretty ridiculous when your body aches just from weeding the garden. I keep telling myself to go swimming, but half a year has already gone by and I still haven't gone. I can only swim about 80 feet, but I think swimming will be less hard on my knees than running and stuff like that
DID SHE REALLY BREAK HER LEGS?
WHAT GIVES?
IT DIDN'T LOOK LIKE SHE WAS IN PAIN
AND, SHE STAYED IN BED THE WHOLE TIME I WAS AT THE HOSPITAL
NO
MIND YOU, I ONLY SAW HER TAKE A COUPLE OF STEPS FROM THE ELEVATOR
IT CAN'T BE RULED OUT, BUT THAT'S HARD TO BELIEVE.
MAYBE SHE DIDN'T NOTICE BECAUSE OF ALL THE EXCITEMENT.
YOU THINK?
GASP
SHE'S BEING CONFINED?

Help me!
HUP
LET'S GO!
MEAN-WHILE...
RATTLE
RATTLE
RATTLE

SOMETHING, OR SOMEBODY, SLOWED THAT ELEVATOR
I'M FAIRLY CERTAIN THAT SOMEBODY WAS GERTRUDE.
SO, THE QUESTION IS, WHAT WAS HE TRYING TO SAVE?
THE PASSENGERS?
THE RECIPE?
DOES HE EVEN KNOW ABOUT THE RECIPE?
IT DOESN'T MATTER IF HE DOES OR NOT.
KLOK

IT'S TIME FOR YOUR MEDICINE.
NOBODY GETS TO HAVE THE RECIPE.
I'M NOT LETTING ANYONE HAVE IT.
NOBODY GETS TO TAKE HER LIFE.

GULP
GULP
I WISH I'D GET BETTER
IT'S REALLY BORING STAYING AT HOME ALL THE TIME
HE SAID THEY'RE PAIN-KILLERS.
OH
WHAT DID THE DOCTOR SAY?
I GET SLEEPY EVERY TIME I TAKE THESE
WHAT ARE THEY FOR?
GET SOME REST

I DIDN'T WANT TO PUSH MY LUCK.
OR, AT LEAST THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT.
BUT, LOOKING BACK, I SHOULD'VE DONE THIS A WHOLE LOT EARLIER
GOOD LUCK!
I'M GOING IN!
ON THE LOOKOUT
GRIP

CREAK
HUMPH
GZZZZZ
GZZZZZ
WOOF
GZZZZZ
WOOF
WOOF
GZZZZZ
WOOF
WOOF
WOOF
?
WHUMP

.....
WHUMP
WHUMP
WHUMP
WHUMP

SNAP
POP
SHE'S NOT HERE.

I HAVE TO CALL GERTRUDE AT LEAST ONCE, ANYWAY.
IT SHOULD BE OKAY NOW. KYUSAKU PROBABLY THINKS I'M ASLEEP.
I ONLY PRETENDED TO TAKE THEM BECAUSE HE GETS MAD IF I DON'T
PIU!
THOK
CRAWL CRAWL.....
IT HURTS A LOT EVEN LIKE THIS.
THEY ARE BROKEN.
OWWW
WHY'S THE DOOR SO FAR AWAY?

EVEN DEMONS SHOULD HAVE CELL PHONES IN THIS DAY AND AGE.
CRAWL CRAWL
THE ONLY WAY I CAN THINK OF IS FOR SHIPPEI TO TAKE A LETTER TO HIM
CALL HIM? IF IT CAN BE CALLED THAT
HOW LONG IS IT GONNA TAKE TO GET TO THE YARD THEN?
CHOU
HAAAAAA
FINALLY.
WHERE AM I?

THIS IS NOT MY ROOM.
PAT
CRAWL CRAWL CRAWL CRAWL CRAWL CRAWL
PAT
IT'S STILL WARM.
SO, I WAS AT LEAST SLEEPING IN THIS BED
WHAT'S GOING ON?

IT USED TO BE MY ROOM--I THINK.
CRAWL CRAWL
THERE'S NOBODY HERE

ROPPOU UNIVERSITY ANNEX MUTSUBANA HALL
RULES
STUDENTS AND VISITORS WISHING TO LODGE IN THIS ANNEX ARE EXPECTED TO ADHERE TO THE FOLLOWING RULES.
ROPPOU UNIVERSITY
WEIRD.
IT'S AN ANNEX BELONGING TO THE UNIVERSITY KYUSAKU GOES TO.
THIS MUST BE THE KITCHEN.
HEY
THERE'S A LIGHT.
NO ONE'S HERE.
YES!
A TELE-PHONE!
CRAWL
CRAWL

SO, WHO DO I CALL?
THUNK
I GUESS I SHOULD CALL HOME FIRST.
CLUNK
AND UP
CLUNK
CLUNK
X-RAYS?

THIS IS--
DON'T YOU REMEMBER?
YOU WERE X-RAYED AFTER THE ACCIDENT
THEY'RE *YOURS*.
SAHARA
I DID ASK YOU TO TAKE THOSE PILLS
KYUSAKU?

THAT'S..
UMM...
I DON'T THINK I UNDERSTAND
BUT..
BUT...
HYPNOSIS?
THE HYPNOSIS WORE OFF
YOU MUST'VE BEEN SURPRISED WHEN IT WASN'T YOUR ROOM
I HAVEN'T BEEN HOME
THIS PLACE IS PERFECT FOR STAYING OUT OF SIGHT
WE'RE NOWHERE CLOSE TO HOME
I BROUGHT YOU STRAIGHT HERE FROM THE HOSPITAL
NOBODY USES THE PLACE AT THIS TIME OF YEAR
IT WAS VERY EASY HYPNOTIZING YOU INTO THINKING YOU WERE RESTING AT HOME
I'VE NEVER TOLD YOU THIS, BUT I'M VERY GOOD AT HYPNOTIZING PEOPLE

CLICK
Pi
Po
Pe
PHONING HOME?
Po
NNNNN
RRRRRR
DON'T BOTHER.
NO ONE'S GOING TO ANSWER IT.
RRRRR
RRRRRR
MOM. DAD.
I HYPNOTIZED THEM, TOO.
RRRRR
RRRRRR
YOU SHOULD'VE STAYED IN YOUR ROOM.
YOU'D HAVE BEEN SPARED THE TRUTH THEN.

RRRRR
RRRRR
WHY?
WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS?
RRRRR
IT'S FOR YOUR OWN GOOD.
RRRRR
WHY DID YOU HAVE TO LIE TO ME?
RRRRR
RRRRR
RRRRR

UMM
GIMME A BREAK. IT COULD GIVE US A LEAD
HELLO?
HEY! WHAT ARE YOU DOING, YOU IDIOT?!
.....
SOMEBODY ANSWERED ?
HELLO? IT'S ME.
CLICK
Hello?

ME?
SAHARA?!
I'M GETTING SHOCKED! THERE'S NOBODY HERE! WHAT'S--?!
JUST WHERE ARE YOU?!
YOU SOUND OUT OF IT.
YES!
P.S.
LISTEN TO ME
DON'T HANG UP.
IS IT GER-TRUDE?
SHE'S NOT ALONE.

SAHARA
I HAVE A WAY TO YOU NOW.
I'LL BE THERE RIGHT AWAY.
BUZZ
I DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH YOU KNOW.
BUT...
I DON'T! BUT, WHY DON'T YOU ASK HIM--IN PERSON?!
THE RECIPE HE'S LOOKING FOR IS SET DOWN ON YOUR BONES.
SAHARA!
SAY MY NAME OUT LOUD.
HOW CAN YOU BE SO SURE HE WON'T KILL YOU?
HE'S DESPERATE FOR THE RECIPE, YOU KNOW.
GERTRUDE! HURRY!

FRAILTY,
THY NAME IS LIFE.

Beep

HERE, GRAB A HOLD
AH, GERTRUDE. I SEE YOU'RE FINE.
CLAUDE?

SO, IT'S TRUE.
MY BROTHER REALLY DID HAVE SOME-THING TO DO WITH THIS.
I WAS TOTALLY TAKEN IN.
I CAN'T BELIEVE I WAS THERE FOR TWO WHOLE WEEKS.

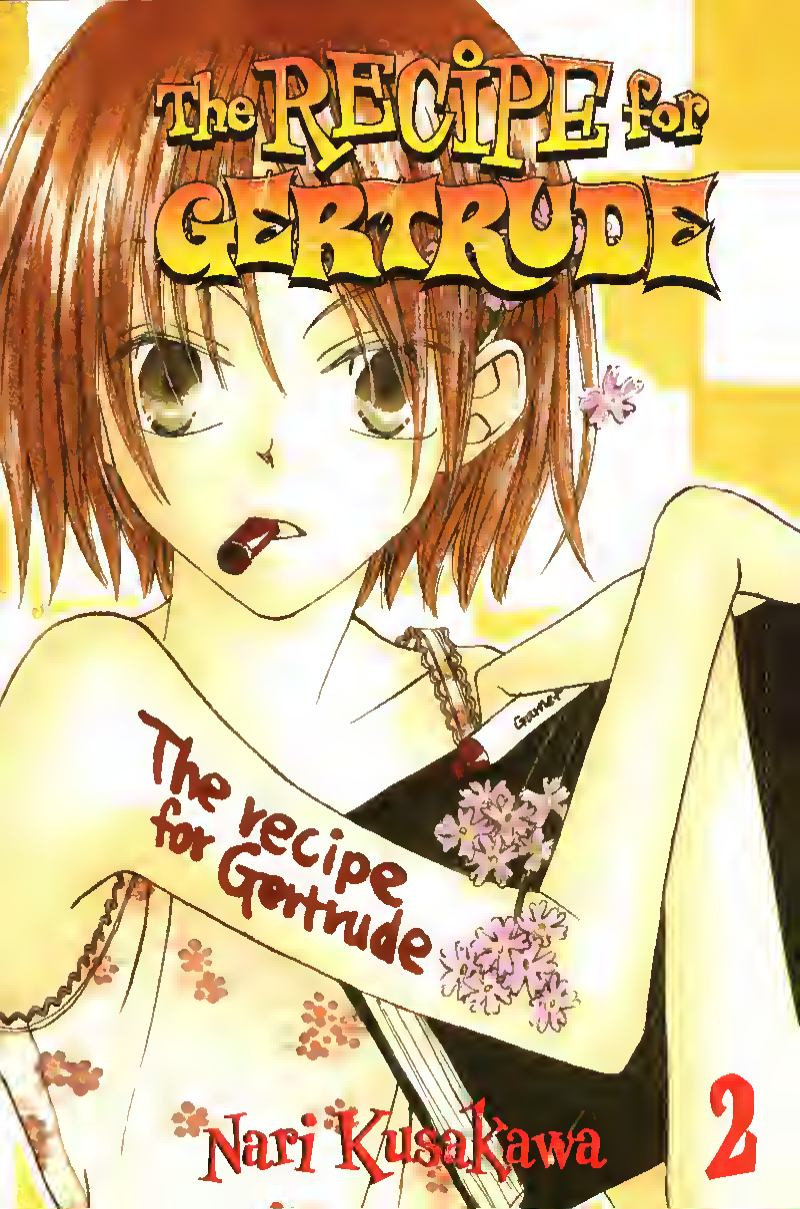
THE CASTS HAVE TO GO THERE.
I'M GONNA HEAL YOUR LEGS.
HUH? WE'RE LANDING HERE?
CLOSE YOUR EYES.
DON'T OPEN THEM TILL I SAY SO.
IS THAT CLEAR?
UH-HUH
I'VE CLOSED THEM.
I WAS HOPING TO SEE WHAT YOU WERE GOING TO DO
SHIVE
.....
A LETTER?
AN "F?"
THAT TICKLES.
"R..."

HEY!
I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE WRITING.
IT'S "FRAILTY."
IT'S THE ONE YOU ALWAYS USE.
FIRST, YOUR RIGHT LEG.
TRY STANDING ON IT.
OKAY.
YOU CAN OPEN YOUR EYES NOW.
POP
PLOP
COOL!
IT DOESN'T HURT AT ALL!
HUH?
THERE'S NO WRITING.
WHERE'S THE BLOOD?

I DIDN'T USE A SINGLE DROP OF BLOOD
THAT WASN'T A SPELL.
I JUST SORT OF RUBBED MY FINGER THERE.
.....
POP
MY LEFT LEG DOESN'T HURT EITHER.
THEY WERE NEVER BROKEN TO BEGIN WITH.
HE PROBABLY HYPNOTIZED YOU, SO YOU WOULDN'T GO ANYWHERE.

IT WAS ANOTHER LIE?
THE RECIPE IS SET DOWN ON YOUR BONES.
WE GREW UP TOGETHER. YET...
I'LL MAKE SOMETHING DIFFERENT TOMORROW.
WHAT'S GOING ON?
I DON'T GET IT.
GET SOME REST

WHEN?
WHEN DID THE LIES BEGIN?
SAHARA...
IT HURTS A LOT.
CLICK
JUST WHO IS HE?


The RECIPE for GERTRUDE
The recipe for Gertrude
Nari Kusakawa
2

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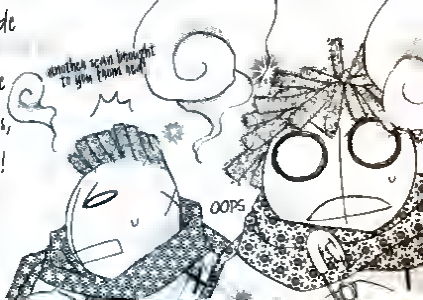

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The RECIPE for GERTRUDE
Chapter 6

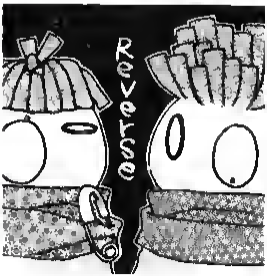
②

**PREVIEW ARTWORK**

NUMBERED IN ORDER OF THE FOUR STORIES IN THIS VOLUME.

③

①




④

① I opted for a breezy look because it was almost summer when the story appeared in the anthology.

② Preview drawings and cover art always take time because the ideas are never there. It took me a long time to figure out what to do for the background.

③ I often have him resting his head on his hand, like here.

④ I reversed the hair. The amount of hair Puppen has is shocking.

YOU KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT THE BODY PART I LOST.
AND, YOU'RE WILLING TO TELL ME.
THAT IS, IF I AGREE TO BRING THIS GIRL TO YOU?
LET ME GET THE DEAL STRAIGHT.
LET'S SEE
I SEE A RESEMBLANCE.
YOUR SISTER?
SO WHAT? WE HAVE A DEAL?
WHY NOT?
I'M IN.

THEN, FIND GERTRUDE
GER-TRUDE?
HE'S A DEMON A HUMAN PUT HIM TOGETHER USING THE PARTS OF OTHER DEMONS.
YOU'LL FIND BOTH THE GIRL AND YOUR MISSING BODY PART WHEN YOU FIND HIM.
GOT IT.
GOOD LUCK.
GERTRUDE...
...HAD LONG SEARCHED FOR THE "RECIPE"
THE RECIPE DESCRIBED HOW A MAN HAD PUT HIM TOGETHER

HE FOUND THE RECIPE ONLY TO DISCOVER THE PAGES WERE BLANK
SOMEONE HAD CAST A SPELL TO LIFT THE DIAGRAMS AND LETTERS. BUT WHO?
KYUSAKU, THE BROTHER TO SAHARA SUSUGI? SHE SUSPECTS HER BROTHER IS INVOLVED IN SOME WAY.
KYUSAKU HAD KEPT SAHARA SECRETLY CONFINED TO KEEP HER AND GERTRUDE APART.
BUT, REALIZING SHE WAS IN TROUBLE GERTRUDE RESCUED SAHARA.
DESPITE HER RESCUE, HER PROBLEMS ARE ONLY BEGINNING. WHO IS THE REAL KYUSAKU? WHERE IS THE RECIPE?
CHIRP
CHIRP

GRIND GRIND
GRIND GRIND
CHIRP
CHIRP CHIRP
.....
I ESCAPED FROM MY BROTHER YESTERDAY.
OH... RIGHT.
GRIND GRIND
CHIRP
EVERYONE THOUGHT IT'D BE SAFER IF I STAYED HERE.

ZIP
WENT HOME TO GET SOME STUFF
BUSTLE
LIKE WOW
YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT LIFE WILL BRING
WHO'D HAVE THOUGHT THE RECIPE HAD BEEN TRANS-FERRED TO MY BONES
SEE? SURPRISE

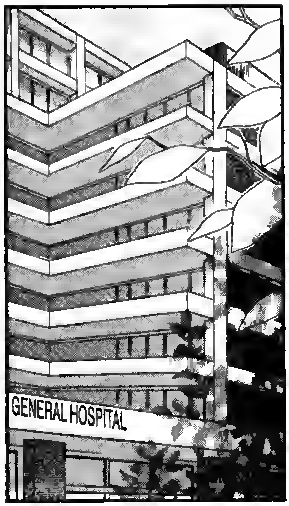
YOU MANAGED TO GET THAT FROM YOUR BROTHER?
YEAH. I DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO EXPLAIN.
IT'S AN X-RAY. THEY TOOK IT AFTER THE ACCIDENT.
IT'S MY RIGHT ARM.
AH
COOL
INSTRUC-TIONS
SO, THIS IS THE RECIPE.
"HE'S DESPERATE FOR THE RECIPE"
THE RECIPE IS ON MY BONES
"HOW CAN YOU BE SO SURE HE WON'T KILL YOU"

WE HAVE SUCH A GOOD THING GOING.
BUT, SUPPOSE HE TURNS ON ME?
STOP STARING AT ME!
WH-WHAT?
ANY IDEAS?
FIRST THING'S FIRST.
YOUR BRO'S PRETTY GOOD AT DECEIVING PEOPLE.
WE HAVE TO MAKE SURE THIS X-RAY IS EVEN YOURS.
WE'LL TAKE IT FROM THERE.

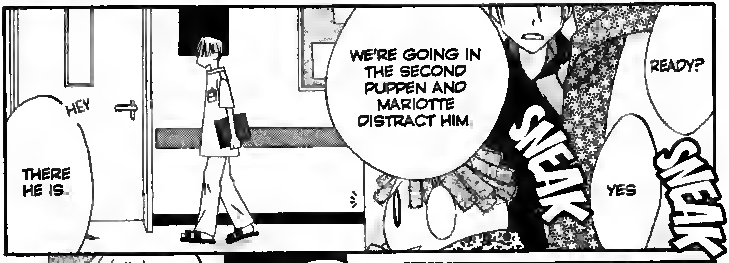
WHAT IS HE GOING TO DO TO THE RECIPE BOOK CALLED "ME?!"

CONSIDERING THE PAIN AND SUFFERING HE'S BEEN THROUGH...

IT'D BE REALLY SELFISH OF ME TO DEMAND ANYTHING


GENERAL HOSPITAL

SUPPOSE HE TURNS ON ME, LIKE MY BROTHER DID IF SOMEONE SO CARING COULD
SURE.

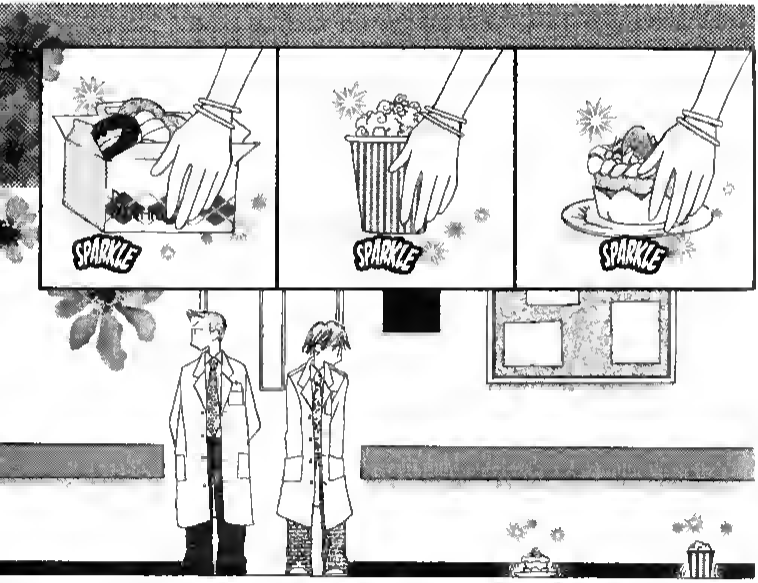

HEY
THERE HE IS.
WE'RE GOING IN THE SECOND PUPPEN AND MARIOTTE DISTRACT HIM.
READY?
YES
SNEAK
SNEAK

X-RA
DOCTOR, IT'S AN EMERGENCY!
ぽぽん
WE'RE OFF.
POOF

ALL RIGHT, I'LL GET IT SET UP.
THERE'S A PATIENT WHO'S IN TERRIBLE PAIN.
HE SAYS HE'LL X-RAY YOU.
YOU AN INTERN?
HUH?
I DON'T RECALL EVER SEEING YOU.
DR. FU... FUKUHEN?
HA HA!
IT'S FUKUPEN!
DOC-TOR? THE X-RAY?
GOOD.
HUH?
WHO ARE YOU?

WHAT TO DO?
FINDING GERTRUDE AND THE GIRL WAS EASY ENOUGH.
I DIDN'T EXPECT THEM, THOUGH.
ON THE LOOKOUT
"CAN MANIPULATE DOLLS, MASQUERADE AS HUMANS .."
"DISPOSITION..."
I SEE, I SEE
SO, THAT'S WHAT THEY REALLY LOOK LIKE
AH! HERE THEY ARE.
PUPPEN AND MARIOTTE.
"OFTEN INHABIT DOLLS"
FLIP FLIP FLIP FLIP

TOO EASY.


SPARKLE
SPARKLE
SPARKLE

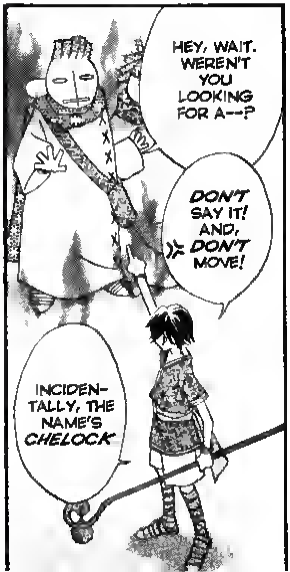
PUPPEN?
FOUL!!

OVER THERE, TOO!
IT'S A TRAP!
BESIDES, DON'T EAT FOOD YOU'VE PICKED UP OFF THE GROUND
ANYONE DUMB ENOUGH TO SET A TRAP LIKE THIS WILL BE A CINCH
WAIT!
THERE'S SOMETHING DEFINITELY WRONG HERE!
WE'RE IN TROUBLE!
OH-OH!
COOL A HUGE PUDDING

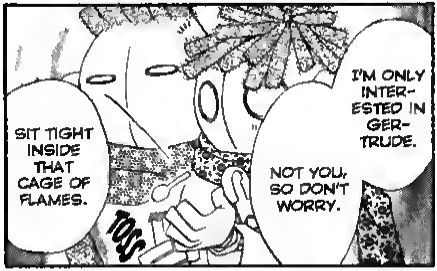
JUG
HE USES FIRE!
JUG
BOOM
BOOM

ALL THANKS TO THE GLUTTON
MY PLAN WORKED PERFECTLY.
COMBUSTIBLES
DOLLS ARE POWERLESS BEFORE FLAMES
STAY STILL, OR ELSE YOU'LL BE BURNED TO A CRISP
BRAVO ME!

DARN!!
AIIIEEEE!
POOF
WE'RE GONNA BE INCINERATED, YOU IDIOT!


HEY, WAIT. WEREN'T YOU LOOKING FOR A--?
DON'T SAY IT! AND, DON'T MOVE!
INCIDENTALLY, THE NAME'S CHELOCK

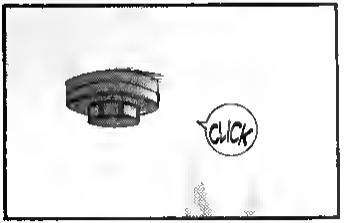
HEY YOU'RE LOOKING FOR A BODY PART, TOO, RIGHT?
I'VE SEEN THAT STAFF BEFORE
UH-HUH.


I'M ONLY INTERESTED IN GERTRUDE.
NOT YOU, SO DON'T WORRY.
SIT TIGHT INSIDE THAT CAGE OF FLAMES.
TOOT

## 02

I get a lot of letters containing questions specifically about me. Like my age (the horror!). Let's put it this way, when I was a preschooler Bunbun the fox was one of the characters on the "With Mom" show. I'm a Sagittarius whose blood type is B, and I like to daydream a lot. I'm told my self-portraits are not very accurate, but I really think I look that way.

One of my favorite animals is the blue whale, which can grow to about 100 feet in length.



FLAP
HE WAS ACTUALLY TELLING THE TRUTH!
JUST LIKE EAR-LESS HOUICHI.*
WHO?
* REFERENCE TO A JAPANESE FOLKTALE; HOUICHI WAS A CHARACTER WHO LOST HIS EARS.
ARGH! JUST WHAT IS HE DOING?!
THERE'S GRAFFITI ALL OVER MY BONES! HE'S LIED TO ME! CONFINED ME! THREATENED ME!
YET, HE'S THE SAME BROTHER WHO PATIENTLY TAUGHT ME HOW TO DIVIDE FRACTIONS! PRONOUN USAGE! IT WAS HE AND I WHO FOUND...(ETC.)!
ARGH! WHO DID THIS?!
MY BROTHER?
PROBABLY

GER-TRUDE?
REALLY WHAT IS HE DOING?
I COULD FEEL IT WHEN I HELD HIS HAND.
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WHEN YOU FIND THE RECIPE?
THERE WAS NO HESITATION OR APPREHENSION

POOF
TAKE THAT!
KER-BAM

WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?!
I'M IN THE MIDDLE OF AN INVESTIGATION
THE NAME'S CHELOCK!
CLANG
I WANT MY BODY PART BACK!
BOO!

POOF
YOUR FOOT! IT'S ON FIRE!
LET'S GET OUTTA HERE!
POP
WATER!
WATER!
WATER!
WA--
SPLASH

SIZZZZZZZZ
MARI-OTTE?
YOU'RE SOAKED!
DRIP
DRIP
BEATEN ALREADY? YOU'RE PATHETIC
DRYING OUT IN THE SUN
HEY
THE X-RAYS!
IT'S THERE.
THE RECIPE?

I HAVE TWO REASONS FOR WANTING THE RECIPE.
I DON'T WANT ANY MORE DEMONS FINDING OUT ABOUT THE RECIPE AND COMING AFTER ME.
THE OTHER REASON IS I WANT TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT MYSELF.
SAHARA
I TOLD YOU THAT THE VERY FIRST TIME I MET YOU.
THE ANSWER?
TO TAKE CARE OF IT.
WHAT DID YOUR BROTHER SAY TO YOU?

HE ASKED IF I HAD ANY ASSURANCES YOU WOULDN'T KILL ME
WHY WOULD I KILL YOU?
HE SAID YOU'RE DESPERATE.
YOU'VE BEEN HURT LIKE THAT OFTEN.
RIGHT?
YOU'VE BEEN HURT A LOT SINCE I'VE KNOWN YOU.

JING
YOU'D DO ANY-THING FOR IT, WOULDN'T YOU?
YOU AND THE RECIPE ARE TWO DIFFER-ENT THINGS
YOU REALLY THINK I WOULD?
YOU REALLY THINK I DON'T HAVE A GOOD ENOUGH REASON NOT TO KILL YOU?
YES
OR, SO I THOUGHT
BUT, THAT'S NOT BECAUSE I DON'T TRUST YOU
IT'S JUST THAT... UM...

WUMP!
YOU'RE NOT GETTING AWAY THIS TIME.
HE CHASED US!
IT'S HOT!

GIVE BACK MY *TAIL!*
STOP STARING!
I DO *NOT!*
YOU SAID YOU'RE CHE-LOCK?
I *DON'T* HAVE A TAIL.
WELL, LOOK ELSE-WHERE
THERE'S NO SENSE IN LYING TO ME
MY SOURCE IS RELIABLE
WE EVEN MADE A DEAL

I GET IT
I'M STARTING TO SEE THE BIGGER PICTURE
I'LL TELL YOU AGAIN YOU WON'T GET YOUR TAIL BACK, EVEN IF YOU BEAT ME.
HEY
THEN YOUR SOURCE LIED TO--
JNG
THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO FIND OUT!
JNG
WHY SHOULD I BELIEVE YOU ANYWAY?!
DIDN'T THINK YOU WOULD.
GOOOO

WHUMMPF
WAUGH!
HERE
HOLD ONTO THESE
THEY'LL BURN
"IT'S JUST THAT..."
WELL? WHAT?
I WAS JUST THINKING
SUPPOSE YOU CHANGED-- LIKE MY BROTHER DID

I'M GONNA BORROW THIS.
SURE.
WHAT WAS I GOING TO DO?
WHAT THEN, YOU KNOW?
IT'S JUST THAT...
DON'T THINK STUPID THINGS LIKE THAT.
IT'S NOT AS IF I DON'T TRUST YOU.
I WAS SO AFRAID OF LOSING YOU.

OKAY, THEN
WHAT TO DO?
I CAN'T WRITE DIRECTLY ONTO THE FLAMES, SO I CAN'T CONTROL THEM
HOW DO I PUT THEM OUT THEN?
ANNOYED
IT PROBABLY WOULDN'T BE A GOOD IDEA TO USE THE WATER TANK
IT IS A HOSPITAL.
CRACK
OUCH
STUPID CLOTHESPIN!
DRIP
YOU GONNA BRING IT OR WHAT?!
THUNK

YOU'RE SO HOTHEADED, ACTING BEFORE YOU THINK.
THAT'S WHY YOU'RE SO EASY TO SUCKER.
HOW COULD YOU FALL FOR SUCH AN OBVIOUS LIE?
DO I LOOK LIKE I EVEN NEED A TAIL?
WANT ME TO PEEL FOR YOU AND SHOW YOU?
WELL, YOU IDIOT?
STEAM
WHERE DO YOU GET OFF SAYING THAT?!
WHOOOMPH

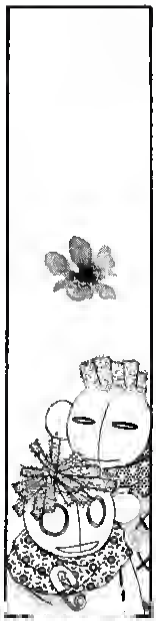
TRYING TO GET AWAY?!
THE FLAMES ARE SPREADING EVERY-WHERE
WHAT'S GERTRUDE TRYING..?
WHOOSH
FLUTTER

THAT SHOULD BE ENOUGH.
MP
THANKS FOR SPREADING THE FLAMES IT'LL WORK A LOT BETTER NOW.
FRAILTY...

FLOAT
THY NAME IS BLOCK.
WITHOUT OXYGEN, A FIRE WILL GO OUT.
GOOOOSHH
HEY!
I GET IT NOW!
GUUUSH

HE'S A DEMON, SO HE WON'T DIE.
AT LEAST, NOT THAT EASILY.
HE CAN COOL OFF IN THERE.
GOOMMM
DEMONS ARE TOUGHER THAN HUMANS.

THEY'RE ALSO A JOKE.
THIS DOESN'T EVEN COUNT AS AN INJURY.
SO, STOP WORRYING ALL THE TIME.
IF ANYTHING GOT MANGLED, IT'S THE HOSPITAL.
THE RECIPE?
LET'S FIND A WAY TO PUT IT BACK INTO THE BOOK-- TOGETHER.



NOW'S NOT THE TIME, THOUGH. THE TIME WILL COME. AND, TOGETHER WE'LL FIND THE WAY.

ALL RIGHT.

A NEW PLAN THEN.

# The Recipe for Gertrude

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(only I can do this!) thanks!

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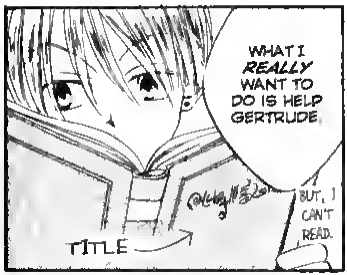
***take care.***

The RECIPE for GERTRUDE
Chapter 7

I'M HOME.
OH, HI.
THANKS FOR CHECKING, PUPPEN.
SO? HOW WAS EVERYTHING AT MY PLACE?
WHAT A TACKY TACKY SUIT!
EVERY-THING SEEMED NORMAL
YOUR MOM, DAD, THEY SEEMED OKAY
POOF
YOUR BROTHER PROBABLY STILL HAS THEM HYPNOTIZED.
I'D IMAGINE HE'S GOT THEM INTO THINKING YOU'RE ON A SCHOOL TRIP OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
THEY WERE WATCHING TV LIKE ALWAYS.

AS LONG AS THEY'RE NOT WORRIED, IT'S OKAY.
THAT'S A RELIEF.
GOOD THING, TOO. HE'S DANGEROUS.
NOWHERE IN SIGHT.
AND MY BROTHER?
.....
IT'S BETTER IF HE'S NOT AROUND.
UH, YEAH
GER-TRUDE?

YOU, ACTU-ALLY
WHAT'S WITH THE GET UP?
WHAT?


WHAT I REALLY WANT TO DO IS HELP GERTRUDE.
BUT, I CAN'T READ.
TITLE

PLOP
ANY LUCK?
HAVE YOU FOUND THE WAY TO PUT THE RECIPE BACK INTO THE BOOK?

OH THIS
I DECIDED TO CLEAN 'CAUSE I HAD NOTHING BETTER TO DO.
DOES IT LOOK GOOD ON ME?
SO, MARIOTTE MADE THIS FOR ME JUST LIKE THAT.

TIME TO HIT THE ENCYCLO-PEDIA.
I WENT THROUGH ALL OF MARIOTTE'S REFERENCE BOOKS
I FOUND ABSO-LUTELY ZIP
NOT YET.
CAME TO CALL EVERY-ONE TO DINNER
OH MARIOTTE, IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT.
SO, WHY THE GLUM FACE? IS IT BECAUSE YOU'RE NOT VERY POPULAR?
I NEED MORE SPECIFIC INFOR-MATION.
I'LL HAVE TO TALK TO AN EXPERT.

ENCYCLO-PEDIA?
IT'S THE BOOK-STORE FOR US SORTS.
THEN WITH WHAT?
THE ODD HUMAN COMES BY.
BUT, MOST OF THE TIME, HUMANS CAN'T FIND THEM BECAUSE THEY SIT ON THE FRINGES OF REALITY.
PLUS, YOU CAN'T BUY THE BOOKS WITH MONEY.
WITH KNOW-LEDGE.
KNOW-LEDGE?
YOU'LL UNDERSTAND WHEN WE GET THERE.
WE'LL GO AFTER WE EAT.

UM... WHERE'S PUPPEN?
HEAD START
TETRAHEDRON
HERE?

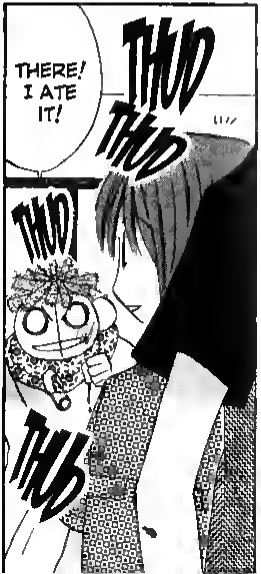
IS THERE REALLY A BOOKSTORE LIKE THAT IN THE CITY?
YOU CAN FIND PORTALS EVERY-WHERE
BUT, THEY TEND TO FORM WHERE THERE ARE LOTS OF PEOPLE
THERE IT IS
WOW
POOF
IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?
POOF

PAT PAT
GRAB
2F
GER-TRUDE?
SQUEEZED TOGETHER
NOBODY CAN SQUEEZE IN THROUGH HERE
CAN THEY?
TWIST
I GUESS THERE'S A KNACK TO GETTING INTO PORTALS.
ZIP
DON'T GET LOST. IT GOES 30 FLOORS UNDER-GROUND.
Know everything in the world!
THIRTY FLOORS?!
ONE MORE THING. IT'S A GIVEN THE STOREKEEPERS WILL BE DIFFICULT.
ガラ ラ?

FLAP
HEY, FATSO!
WHAT DO YOU HAVE IN YOUR MOUTH?
CANDY
POP
BASH
UH - YEAH
REMEMBER THAT, WELL!
YOU'LL RUIN THE BOOKS
THOU SHALT SUFFER THE LASH OF IRON IF THOU DARE TO EAT OR DRINK IN THIS ESTABLISHMENT

# 03

It's been pointed out to me that many of my characters wear glasses. I admit it. I like glasses. More specifically, they're something I've always wanted. My eyesight has always been good (although it might've gone down a shade recently), so I never got the chance to wear them. They don't suit me whenever I do try on a pair. Actually, they **do** suit me, but in a bad sort of way. Either way, it looks really weird when I put them on, so I don't even put on those fashion pairs that don't actually have corrective lenses.



THIS IS IT, WITHOUT A DOUBT...
THIS IS TRULY A RARITY AMONG RARITIES

WHAT AN AWFUL WASTE
WAUGH
ALL THE PAGES ARE *BLANK*
THE PAPER ITSELF IS ORIGINAL
OR IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE.
IT'S THE *RECIPE FOR GERTRUDE!*
THE **REAL** ONE!

WHAT WOULD YOU GIVE ME IF I WERE TO LEND THIS TO YOU FOR AN HOUR?
WELL, WITH THIS, I'D CERTAINLY ALLOW YOU TO SEARCH EVERYTHING HERE, AND..
SO, THEY'RE BARTERING INFOR-MATION.
UH-HUH
IT ALL DEPENDS ON THE AMOUNT AND QUALITY OF THE INFOR-MATION.
IF THE INFORMATION'S GOOD, HE'LL EXCHANGE IT FOR DOZENS OF BOOKS. IF NOT, HE WON'T EVEN GIVE YOU THE FLOOR THE BOOKS *MAY* BE ON
SOME CUSTOMERS EVEN GET LOST WHILE WANDERING AROUND THE BOOKSTORE
WHILE *IN* THE STORE?
THE FLOORS GET WEIRDER THE LOWER YOU GO.
IT'S A REGULAR LABY-RINTH
REALLY

NONE OF THIS INTERESTS HIM
PUPPEN, YOU'RE AWFULLY QUIET
AKIRA
I COULDN'T TELL HIM EVERY-THING
BECAUSE OF THAT, I COULDN'T NARROW THE SEARCH
OH.
WE NEED TO LOOK AROUND B10
AROUND?
YOU CAN LEAVE YOUR SHOES IN THESE LOCKERS
THE STAIRS ARE BEHIND THAT DOOR
OKAY
HURRIEDLY
TOTAL OVERKILL!
HEY
EXCUSE ME
YOU'LL NEED THESE PERMITS. WEAR THESE GLOVES, SO YOU WON'T GET GREASE OR SWEAT ON THE BOOKS. AND, YOU'LL HAVE TO WEAR THESE RUBBER-SOLED SHOES, SO YOU WON'T MAKE ANY NOISE.
YOU CAN'T TOUCH THE BOOKS WITHOUT THE PERMITS.

SNIFF
TAKE YOUR TIME
SNIFF

IT'S HUGE.
IT'S MORE LIKE A LIBRARY.

BASEMENT 10
WE'LL SPLIT UP AND LOOK FOR IT.
WE'LL START WITH THOSE SHELVES THEN.
OH?
MAY I PRESUME YOU'RE HUMAN, YOUNG LADY?

YOU MUST BE HERE ON A VERY PRESSING MATTER.
ER YEAH
I MUST SAY, SELDOM DO I FIND CHARMING YOUNG LADIES HERE
I, MYSELF, AM ALSO HUMAN
I KNOW OF A VERY GOOD PLACE
ER UM.. ARE YOU HITTING ON ME?
CARE TO JOIN ME FOR A SPOT OF TEA?
YOU CAN TELL ME WHAT'S VEXING YOU.
VERY DAPPER
THE YOUNG LADY WILL PROBABLY BE SAFE WITH YOU AROUND.
I DO WARN YOU THOUGH...
PUSH
OH?
WAS I INTRUDING?
PLEASE, TAKE THIS
TAKE IT ELSEWHERE, GRAMPS
I SEE YOUR COMPANION IS A DEMON.
SO WHAT?

ARE YOU SAYING THE STORE-KEEPERS ARE EVIL?
NO...
UH-HUH.
YOU HAVE HEARD ABOUT THOSE WHO NEVER RETURN FROM THESE BOOKSTORES?
BUT, THEY DON'T ALWAYS FOLLOW THE RULES.
THEY'RE INSATIABLE WHEN IT COMES TO KNOWLEDGE
MOST OF THE EXCHANGES ARE STRAIGHT-FORWARD
THEY SOMETIMES HIDE AND GOBBLE UP THE UNSUSPECTING CUSTOMER.
"WHY?" YOU ASK.
SO THEY CAN ABSORB THEIR ENTIRE PREY AS KNOWLEDGE.

I SHALL BE 198 TOMORROW
GOODBYE, MY DEAR
THANKS
THEY ONLY SELECT PREY THEY CAN SAFELY EAT
SO, HUMANS LIKE US MUST BE DOUBLY CAREFUL
OH, ABOUT 70
INCIDENTALLY, HOW OLD DO I LOOK?
I WONDER IF HE'S GONNA BE SAFE BY HIMSELF
WHO KNOWS?
CUT
HE WAS EVEN OLDER THAN ME.
THERE ARE ALL SORTS
YOU SAID IT

STRETCH
SAHARA?!

THUD
OW!
YOU HAVE THE SAME ENTICING SMELL AS THE RECIPE FOR
I GUESS I'LL FIND OUT HOW YOU TASTE AFTER I EAT YOU
SO, IT'S BON APPETITE--- FOR ME.
NYEEEE
PLOP

"THEY ABSORB THEIR ENTIRE PREY AS KNOWLEDGE"
THAT'S WHAT HE MEANT
OH YEAH?!
SLAP
WHO SAID I HAD TO MAKE IT EASY FOR YOU?!
YOU, YOU, YOU POMPOUS MEANIE!
WHAT?!
HEY HEY HEY!
BE CAREFUL WITH THE BOOKS!

YOU WENCH!
PLOP
SNORT
WHAT ARE THEY?
ARE THEY THE REAL STORE-KEEPERS?
YOU GUYS LOOK FROM FLOORS 20 AND UP
I'LL SEARCH THE LOWER FLOORS
KNOWING THE STOREKEEPER, HE WON'T LEAVE THE BOOKSTORE

SHE WAS WITH ME TOO
SAHARA?
DON'T GET EATEN! I'M ON MY WAY!
TOSS
GULP
HEY
COULDN'T HELP IT
GULP
.....

CHOMP
TOSS
WITH THE WAY THE SHELVES ARE LINED UP...
THIS WAY?
THUD THUD THUD THUD THUD
TOSS
OKAY THEN
WHICH WAY'S THE STAIRS?
OOPS
HUH?
MAYBE THE LAYOUT IS DIFFERENT FOR EACH FLOOR

I KNOW I AM CLOSE, BUT I CAN'T FIND THE WAY OUT. THE 30TH FLOOR IS BEWILDERING.
HELP ME
"THE FLOORS GET WEIRDER THE LOWER YOU GO."
"SOME NEVER RETURN"
I'M...
I'M ON THE 30TH FLOOR!
FLOOR! FLOOR!
IT'S QUIET, SO HE SHOULD HEAR ME.
NOW WHAT?
DASH!

SAHARA?! WHERE ARE YOU?!
ANSWER ME!
"THE YOUNG LADY WILL PROBABLY BE SAFE WITH YOU AROUND"
PLEASE!
POOF
GOOD ANSWER!
I'M ON THE 30TH FLOOR!

THUD THUD THUD
THEY JUST DON'T GIVE UP.
SLIP
WAUGH!
THUD
BOO

OH!
GUH

END

POP!
SPIT HER OUT!
WH
GERTRUDE?

SORRY TO HAVE KEPT YOU WAITING.
NOT AT ALL.
ER, WHAT ARE THESE SQUIRMY THINGS?
EELS?
THE STORE-KEEPER.
NEVER.

YEAH RIGHT. YOU ALREADY LAID HANDS ON HER ONCE.
HEE HEE
I'LL NEVER DO IT AGAIN.
YOU STILL INTEND TO EAT OTHERS?
I'LL NEVER TOUCH HER AGAIN NOT HER HONEST
YOU'D BETTER
I'LL RETURN THE RECIPE TO YOU, TOO
WHO'D HAVE THOUGHT YOU WERE THE GERTRUDE?

NO WONDER YOU SMELLED SO DELICIOUS
STOP TRYING TO SMELL ME UP.
SNORT SNORT SNORT
I THINK I UNDER-STAND WHY YOU'RE HERE NOW.
IT'S NOT JUST THE RECIPE.
AND, I THINK I CAN HELP YOU.
SO, PLEASE FORGIVE ME...
...FOR TODAY.
I WANT TO KNOW MORE!
THERE'S MORE TO BE LEARNED THROUGH A SEARCH.
I ASSURE YOU I WON'T
THAT'S WHAT HE SAYS. BUT, THE SECOND YOU TURN YOUR BACK, CHOMP!
EXCUSE ME
HE'S DANGER-OUS.

AFTER LOOKING AT THE TWO OF YOU,
SEE? YOU STILL INTEND TO
STOP SMELLING ME
SNIFF SNIFF
..I THINK YOU'LL TASTE THAT MUCH BETTER
ONE MORE THING...
OH
REALLY?!
I'LL GIVE YOU TIME, SO LOOK INTO IT, OKAY?
HOLD HANDS, JUST TO BE SURE
...WHEN YOU LEAVE THE STORE
MAKE SURE YOU DON'T GET SEPARATED.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

RUMI?
I'M SUPPOSED TO TAKE *YOUR* ADVICE? YOU CAUSED THE PROBLEMS IN THE FIRST PLACE

...UH-HUH
...I SEE
SO, SHE HASN'T CALLED YOU, EITHER
...I SEE
NO?
NO
IT'S ALREADY DAWN.
...YES ANYTHING AT ALL
PLEASE LET US KNOW.
BYE
IT LOOKS AS THOUGH SHE TOOK SOME CLOTHES WITH HER
CHCK
SO, I DON'T THINK SHE WAS KIDNAPPED
MAYBE SHE DID RUN AWAY
WHERE ON EARTH WOULD SAHARA GO?
HMMMM
SHE LEFT HER CELL PHONE, TOO.
HOOF HOOF

WOOF WOOF
QUIET, SHIPPE!
WHY ARE YOU BARKING SO MUCH?!
GACHA
I'M HOME
WELL, KYUSAKU?
WOOF WOOF
OH...
I CHECKED WITH EVERYONE WHO KNOWS HER
NOTHING
WOOF
WOOF
NO, IT'S SMART
WOOF
SHIPPE! DOESN'T WANT TO COME INTO THE HOUSE
WHAT A SILLY DOG
WOOF
WOOF
DEAR?
LET'S GIVE IT ANOTHER DAY AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS
REALLY?
THEN I'D WISH IT'D FIND SUSUGI.
GAHAH
WOOF WOOF

I'VE UNDONE PART OF THE HYPNOSIS.
SHE'LL PROBABLY COME HOME AS IF NOTHING EVEN HAPPENED
I HOPE SO
SO, SAHARA?
SHOULD I DESTROY THE WORLD YOU KNOW?

# The Recipe for Gertrude

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The RECIPE for GERTRUDE
Chapter 8

I DON'T HAVE ANY SPELLS LEFT TO TRY. THAT'S IT FOR TODAY.
SO, WHAT'S NEXT?
THAT SPELL DIDN'T WORK, EITHER.
THAT'S ODD.
NOTHING HAPPENED.
THEY'RE STILL BLANK.
BECAUSE HE'S A CUSTOMER.
LEAVE IT TO ME, SIR.
KEEP LOOKING.
FIND A WAY TO PUT THE RECIPE BACK INTO THE BOOK.
PUFF
PUFF
ASSIS-TANTS, BLOW OUT THE CANDLES, PLEASE.
NORMALLY USING FIRE IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED.
JUST LOOKING FOR IT IS EXCITING.

HEY
COME HERE
WORD
YESP WHAT?
SURE THAT CAN BE ARRANGED RIGHT AWAY
GOOD
ENCYCLOPEDIA
erything in the World
TAKE CARE.
STARE
?

WHIFF
WHAT DO YOU--?!
BODY HAIR STANDING ON EDGE
WHAT WAS ALL THAT ABOUT?
HUGE...
IT'S TOO BRIGHT
HIS EYES ARE HUGE
HEY

HAVE YOU SEEN
THIS RUNAWAY?
NAME: SAHARA SUSUGI
HEIGHT: 5'2" AGE: 17
CONTACT US IF YOU HAVE SEEN THIS PERSON.
IT'S SAHARA
WHAT?!

RIP
THE NERVE!
WHAT A CLUMSY ATTEMPT.
A DEMON DIDN'T WORK
SO, HE'S USING HUMANS THIS TIME?
SEEMS LIKE IT.
WHAT'S HE THINKING THIS TIME, PUTTING UP SOMETHING LIKE THIS?!
WHAT IS THIS?!
MY BROTHER'S AT IT AGAIN!
THERE'S MORE TO IT.
I KNOW CLAUDE
IF ANYTHING, HE WANTS TO DRAW OUR ATTENTION.

I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU CRUMPLED IT UP!
DO YOU KNOW WHAT THAT'S FOR?!
RATTLE
HEY! WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!
HUH?
YOU LOOK.
OH-OH.
HEY, GIRL!
IT WAS YOUR PARENTS WHO PUT THAT UP!
YOU'RE THAT RUNAWAY!
LET'S GET OUTTA HERE!
DASH!

SWEAT
SWEAT
WHAT?
YOU'RE SAYING MY PARENTS ARE NO LONGER UNDER HYPNOSIS?
AND NOW THEY'RE LOOKING FOR ME BECAUSE I'M NOT HOME?
GUUUUUD
WHAT AM I GOING TO DO?
YOUR BROTHER UNDID THE SPELL.
SO, HE'S PROBABLY HOME
IS THAT WHY...
...YOU WERE CHECKING TO SEE IF HE WAS HOME?
NOT THAT I COULD DO ANY-THING
IT'S NOT AS IF WE COULD TELL YOUR PARENTS EVERYTHING
WE CAN'T TELL EVERYONE WHO MIGHT BE TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF WHAT'S ACTUALLY GOING ON

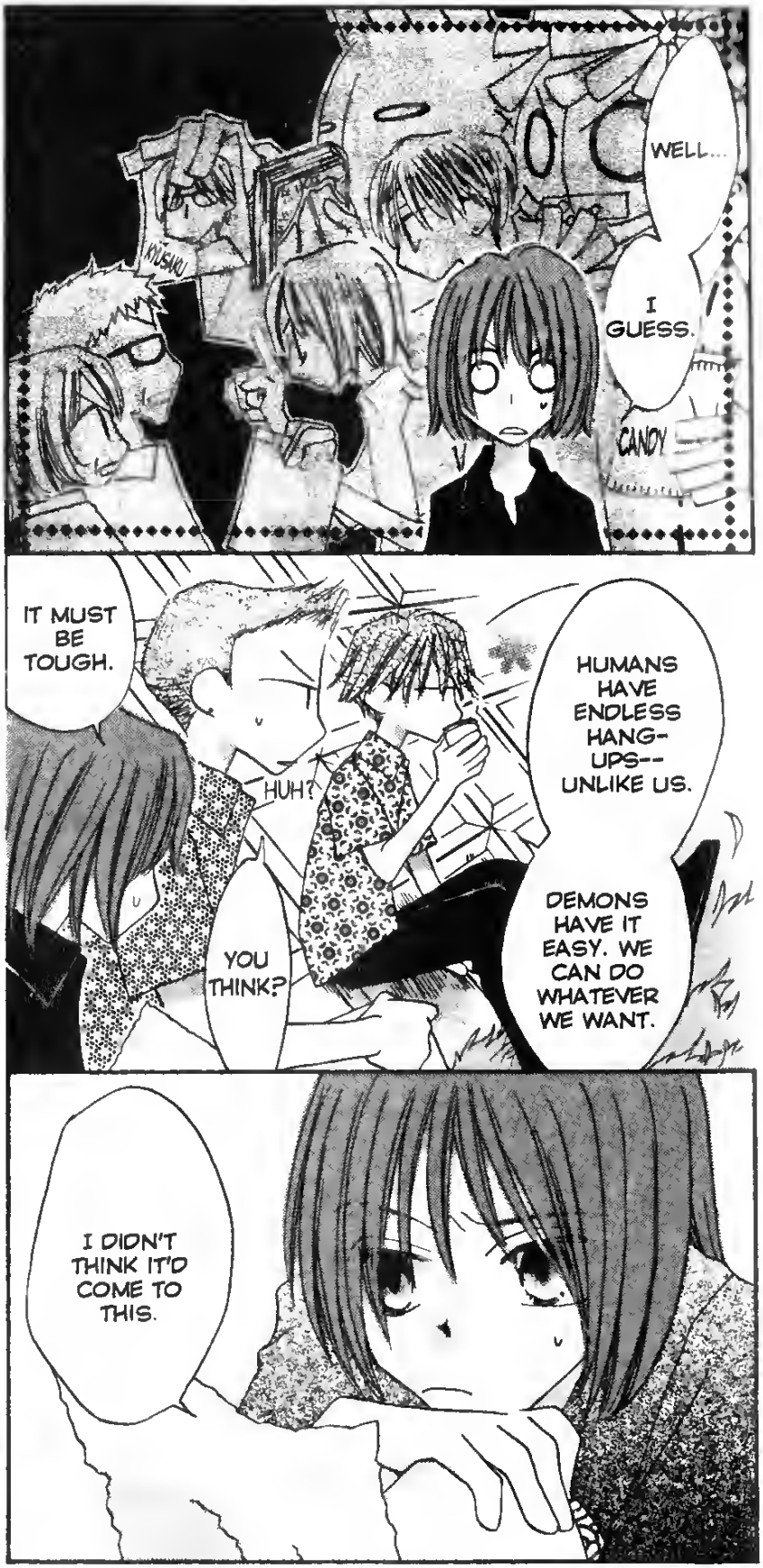
# 04

Some people wanted to know what supplies I use. Here are the main ones.

- Zebra ballpoint pens ands filler
- Pilot art ink
- IC manga paper (300 lb.)
- Screen tone cutter (replacement blades: 30°)
- Dr. Martin's White (Bleed Proof White)
- Screen tone, pens, etc.
- Coloring, on illustration boards. Mainly Copic and sometimes Dr. Martin colored ink.

Someone once told me the ink goes on easier if you heat the pen tips. Since then, I've gotten good at using a lighter--even though I don't smoke.

See you at the end of the book.

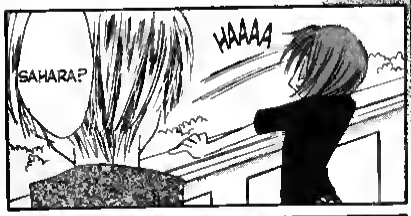


"IT WAS YOUR PARENTS WHO PUT THAT UP!"
GERTRUDE?
WOULD IT BE OKAY IF I CHECKED UP ON MY MOM AND DAD?
HE KNEW YOU'D WANT TO
AND HE'S GOING TO USE THAT AGAINST YOU.
YEAH.

TAP
I CAN'T SEE IN FROM HERE
SUSUGI
THAT'S WEIRD THE BARRIER TO WARD EVIL SPIRITS OFF IS GONE
HEY
WHINNNNE
SHIPPEI?

LET'S SEE

FLOP
FLOP
ARE YOU SICK, BOY?


SAHARA?
HAAAA

THE AIR FEELS REALLY HEAVY ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE FENCE

.....

?!
WHUMP

STAND CLOSE TO ME AND YOU'LL BE ABLE TO SEE THEM
OH, I REMEMBER THOSE UNHEALTHY CLOUD THINGS*
BLACK VAPORS
SO?
BLUUUB
WHOA!
YOU'RE RIGHT!
NO WONDER SHIPPEI'S FEELING SICK
YOU CAN'T SEE ANYTHING FROM THIS SIDE.
I WONDER WHY
AND, WHAT'S WITH ALL THIS..?
THE SHADOWS ARE ATTRACTED TO GLOOMY PEOPLE
LOOK AT HOW MUCH THERE IS HERE
GASP
THERE'S ONLY ONE REASON

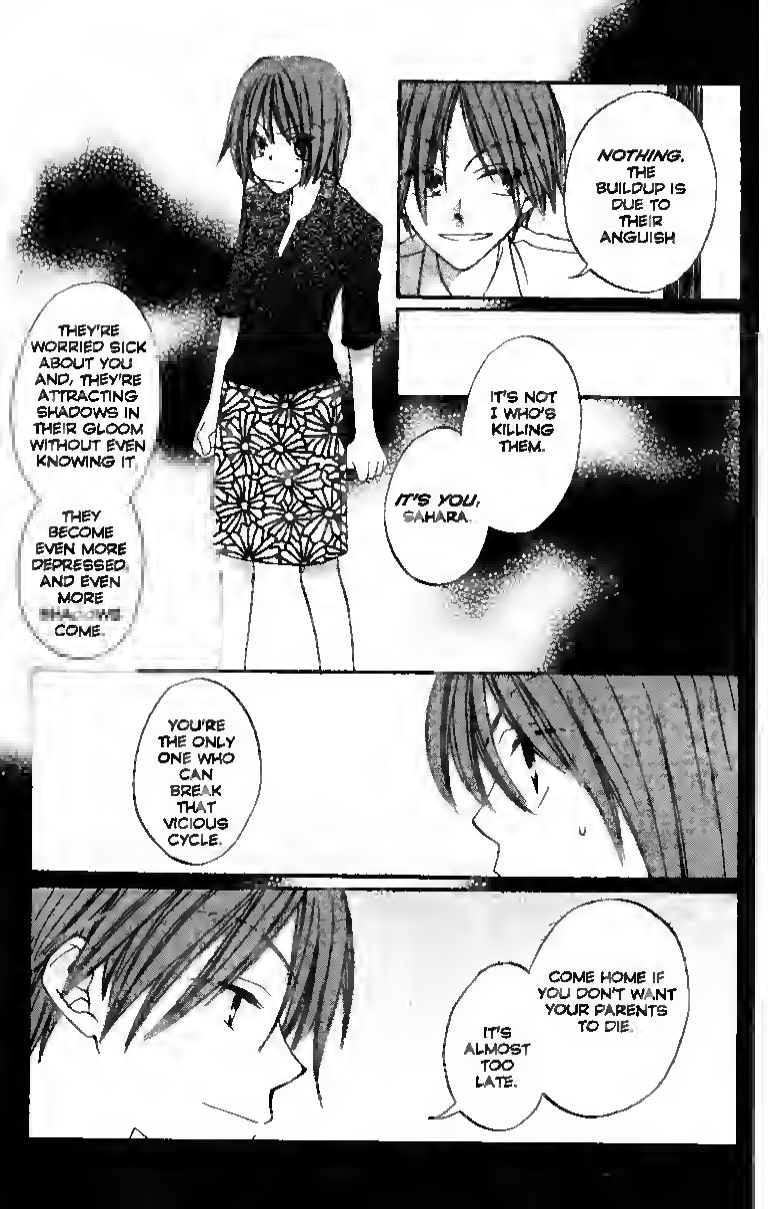
(*. FIRST SEEN IN THE RECIPE FOR GERTRUDE VOL 1)

AH...
"SAHARA?"
HUH?
THEY COLLAPSED?!

BOLT
HEY!
YOU'RE TOO RASH
IT IS A TRAP
HAMMER HAMMER
YOU'RE TELLING ME NOT TO?
I'LL BE IN TROUBLE IF I DO?
NO
THUNK
I DON'T HAVE A CHOICE.
SORRY, PAL.

I HAVE TO MAKE A DECISION SOONER OR LATER.
IF I DON'T, I'M NOT GOING TO GET ANY-WHERE.
AT LEAST, NOT FUR-THER THAN THIS.

WHAT'S WRONG WITH MOM AND DAD?
SO YOU CAME.
AGAIN
EVEN-TUALLY, THOUGH, IT WILL GET DANGEROUS.
I MADE SURE I WON'T BE AFFECTED.
YET?
WITH THE SHADOWS THIS THICK, THEY WERE BOUND TO GO DOWN.
THEY'RE ALL RIGHT.
THEY DON'T NORMALLY BUILD UP LIKE THIS
WHAT DID YOU DO?
THEY WON'T DIE YET.


NOTHING. THE BUILDUP IS DUE TO THEIR ANGUISH
THEY'RE WORRIED SICK ABOUT YOU AND, THEY'RE ATTRACTING SHADOWS IN THEIR GLOOM WITHOUT EVEN KNOWING IT.
IT'S NOT I WHO'S KILLING THEM.
IT'S YOU, SAHARA.
THEY BECOME EVEN MORE DEPRESSED AND EVEN MORE [illegible] COME.
YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN BREAK THAT VICIOUS CYCLE.
COME HOME IF YOU DON'T WANT YOUR PARENTS TO DIE.
IT'S ALMOST TOO LATE.

AREN'T THEY YOUR PARENTS TOO?
SINCE WHEN HAVE YOU BEEN SO TWISTED?
HA!
CHUCKLE
STRAIGHT TO THE POINT.
I'VE ALWAYS LIKED THAT ABOUT YOU.
I WAS "TWISTED" BEFORE YOU WERE EVEN BORN.
THIS BODY CAME FROM YOUR PARENTS
BUT INSTEAD OF THE SOUL OF KYUSAKU SUSUGI...
IT CONTAINS THE SOUL OF A MAN NAMED CLAUDE
IT'S MY "SECOND" LIFE
ONE LIFETIME WAS NOT ENOUGH

SO IT REALLY IS YOU, CLAUDE
ONE LIFETIME SHOULD BE ENOUGH!
YOU'VE POSSESSED KYUSAKU?
I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU MANAGED TO ATTRACT ALL THESE SHADOWS
BUT, I'M GONNA GET RID OF THEM.
YOU WILL?
BUT, CAN YOU?
THE BLACK VAPORS ARE LIKE SMOKE!
CHIP
I CAN'T PUT A SPELL DIRECTLY ONTO THEM.
SLOUGH
REJECTED

I'M GONNA LET THE GROUND SOAK UP MY BLOOD BEFORE I CAST THE SPELL
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
AH... YEAH.
POUR
FRAILTY, THY NAME IS SHADOW
THE GROUND IS SUCKING UP THE SHADOWS. SCARY
HUUUUU

GUMP
GUMP GUMP
THAT'S A HUGE SNAKE!
I USED THE GROUND TO GIVE THEM FORM.
IT'LL ATTRACT ATTENTION, BUT THAT CAN'T BE HELPED.

HUH?

THERE'S A BARRIER?
SHATTER
SHATTER
SHATTER
YOU FINALLY NOTICED.
YOU CAN GET IN, BUT YOU CAN'T GET OUT.

I MODIFIED THE PROTECTIVE BARRIER I HAD BEFORE
IT'S LIKE A CONTAINMENT SPELL NOW
INCIDENTALLY, THE SHADOWS ARE ATTRACTED TO POWERFUL DEMONS--LIKE YOU
BUT, HE ALSO WANTED ME.
SO? WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO, GERTRUDE?
IT WAS OBVIOUSLY A TRAP TO GET SAHARA BACK.
YOU EVEN BEING HERE IS NOT GOOD FOR HER PARENTS
YOU'RE KILLING THEM THAT MUCH FASTER
I GUESS WE HAVE TO LEAVE FOR NOW

CLAUDE IS USING KYUSAKU AS A SHIELD.
BUT, I'LL END UP KILLING HER PARENTS IF I STAY HERE.
I HAVE TO BREAK THROUGH THIS BARRIER SOMEHOW.
STAY LIKE THAT UNTIL I TELL YOU.
CLIMB OVER THE FENCE AND FACE AWAY FROM IT.
CLOSE YOUR EYES AND PLUG YOUR EARS.
WHAT ABOUT THE BARRIER?
HOW ARE YOU GOING TO GET OUT, GERTRUDE?
HURRY
IT'LL WORK IF YOU JUST DO AS I SAY

SURE.
I'VE ALREADY MADE MY CHOICE.
THE REST IS UP TO YOU NOW, SAHARA.

GERTRUDE!

I THOUGHT SHE MIGHT LIKE SOMETHING SWEET.
YEAH. SHE LOOKED REALLY UPSET.
CARAMELIZED APPLES
SMELLS GOOD!
MARIOTTE, IS THAT MEDICINE, TOO?
NO.
IT'S FOR SAHARA.
GLOP GLOP
WHAT'S HE GOING TO DO ABOUT SAHARA? AT THIS RATE, HER BROTHER'S GOING TO GET HER SACK.
HE'S NOT GOING ANYWHERE FOR A WHILE.
BUT, WOW, DID GERTRUDE GET BANGED UP BAD THIS TIME.
UH-HUH.
TASTER
WHAT? THE STORE-KEEPER?
GER-TRUDE SAID TO GO TO THE ENCYCLO-PEDIA...
...IF ANYTHING HAPPENED TO HIM

GERTRUDE IS NOT GIVING UP SAHARA WITHOUT A FIGHT.

SOB
ARE YOU TRYING TO GO FROM BEING FRANKENSTEIN TO BEING THE MUMMY?
YOU SORRY PATCH-WORK!
DO YOU KNOW HOW MANY YARDS OF DRESSING I HAD TO USE?!
YOU COMPLAIN-ING?
UM...ARE YOU PRAYING?
LIKE, STOP CRYING THAT MUCH, OKAY?
LIKE, UM...
COUGH
SOB
GEE, I'VE CRIED MYSELF HOARSE.
I FELT SO SORRY FOR YOU...

GERTRUDE, YOU KNEW THIS WOULD HAPPEN IF YOU TRIED TO ESCAPE, DIDN'T YOU?
THERE WAS NO OTHER WAY.
CLAUDE WANTED TO INCAPACITATE ME ALL ALONG
HE DOESN'T WANT ME HANGING AROUND YOU.
YOU KNEW IT WAS A TRAP, DIDN'T YOU?
THAT'S WHAT PUPPEN AND MARIOTTE SAID
WHY DIDN'T YOU TRY TO STOP ME?
.....
YOU'RE GONNA HAVE TO MAKE DIFFICULT DECISIONS FROM HERE ON.
JUST WHAT DO YOU WANT? WHAT ARE YOU GETTING INTO?
TAKE A GOOD LOOK FIRST, OKAY?

I CAN'T
I CAN'T LEAVE MOM AND DAD LIKE THAT.
I REALLY WANT TO GO AND HELP THEM. THEY'RE EVERYTHING TO ME
I CAN'T LEAVE THEM ALL DEPRESSED LIKE THAT.
AND...

I LIKE YOU, TOO.
I WANT TO BE WITH YOU-- EVEN IF IT MIGHT UPSET MY PARENTS
I WANT TO BE WITH YOU ALL THE TIME
DO YOU REALIZE YOU'RE ASKING FOR THE IMPOSSI-BLE?

SO WHAT?
WHAT DO I NEED TO DO TO GET BOTH?
ONE YOU ALREADY HAVE
I THINK YOU ALREADY KNOW
DON'T YOU?

SWEET THOUGHTS THAT FILL MY HEART...
...GENTLY COME AFLAME AND LIGHT THE PATH I MUST TAKE.
I'M GOING HOME.

# The Recipe for Geotrude

Please do not redistribute
file in public places. This
includes LJ, forums, blogs,
html sites, etc., even if
it's locked/underground!

(only I can do this!) thanks!

also, don't take credits out!
and don't post on online albums!

another scary looking
in your room at 4...

# *Just good info:*

***Can I distribute some of the links?***

***No. If I see any links outside of the site, possibly all titles and possible the site will closed down. I have seen some of the scans outside of the site before, but I sort of just shrugs it off because I cannot control the distribution. So in the long run, if I see more of the scans circulating, everything will come down. Of course, w/o prior warnings and notices.***

***Yes. If you are passing it to a friend. I do not want to see it post in public places. (e.g. blogs, websites, livejournals, forums, etc.)***

***Isn't that a little harsh?***

***Yeah, but I'm using my own time to do this and the only thing I asked of you is to not redistribute. If you can't follow that one simple rule, then why should I bother doing what I do. I give people warnings and asked them to take it down, but it tiring after a while. So, don't be surprise if all of sudden this site disappear.***

***also, this is a LQ scan, do not subsitute for the real thing. if it's availabe in your country, go buy it!! title is read left to right.***

***take care.***

WHERE'S ARUM'S FAMILY?
THEY WENT STRAIGHT TO THE OPERATING ROOM
OPERATING R
OH...
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT THOUGH...
THE PIANO FELL ON *BOTH* OF THEM
I FEEL SO SORRY FOR ARUM. SHE SPECIFICALLY CAME BACK BECAUSE SHE FOUND OUT THE MANOR WAS UNDERSTAFFED...
IF THE MASTER HAD CONTINUED TO PERFORM LIKE HE USED TO, THERE WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ANY OF THIS TALK OF MONEY--AND THIS WOULDN'T HAVE HAPPENED

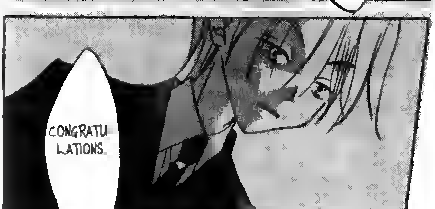
THE
TRYST

GOOD MORNING, MASTER
IT'S TIME TO WAKE UP
BREAKFAST IS SERVED
RISE AND SHINE
OH!
YOU'RE .. YOU'RE..!
MASTER, HOW COULD YOU?
IT IS I, ARUM.
YOU'RE BEING SUCH A BABY

I SHOULD POINT OUT THE MASTER WAS A STUBBORN OLD GOAT--UNTIL YESTERDAY.
YOU'VE BECOME YOUNG AGAIN, TOO.
CARE TO LOOK IN THIS MIRROR?
HUMPH.
TRYING TO LOOK YOUNG--AT YOUR AGE?
YOU WERE NOTHING BUT A GNARLED OLD HAG UNTIL YESTERDAY. WHY NOW?
SEE?
YOU HAVE A THICK CROP OF HAIR AGAIN.
!!
HOW WE BOTH LOOKED 60 YEARS AGO.
IN-DEED.
THIS IS ME HOW I LOOKED.

YOU MARRIED YOUR FIANCÉ
I LEFT YOUR SERVICES
IT WAS QUITE A YEAR.
I WAS 20.
YOU WERE 17.
MORE OR LESS.
DON'T GET ANY WRONG IDEAS.
I HAD A WONDERFUL LIFE. A LOVING HUSBAND, DARLING CHILDREN.
YEAH? WELL, YOU WEREN'T THE ONLY ONE.
SURE, IT WAS ARRANGED, BUT MY WIFE AND I WERE HAPPY TOGETHER.

WHAT'S THIS FEELING INSIDE?




"REGRET?" NO, IT ISN'T QUITE THAT.

I DON'T LIKE IT WHEN THERE ARE TOO MANY PEOPLE
THAT COULD HAVE BEEN THE END OF IT-- NEVER TO SEE EACH OTHER AGAIN.
THAT WOULD'VE BEEN ALL RIGHT.
CHAT
CHAT
MASTER, YOU MUST STOP BEING SO CRANKY
VERY FEW PEOPLE HAVE STAYED ON HERE
I HAVE TO WORK TWICE AS HARD NOW
QUIT WHINING.
NO ONE ASKED YOU TO COME BACK
DEAR ME!
YOU SEE? IT'S THAT VERY ATTITUDE.
MY WIFE'S DEAD. IT'S ONLY ME NOW.
A SMALL STAFF IS MORE THAN ADEQUATE.
THE PAIN WE HAD INSIDE?
YOU'VE GROWN CRANKY WITH AGE.
I SUPPOSE WE'RE BOTH OVER IT NOW.

WE'RE LOSING HER!
BIP
BIP
CLAMP
CLAMP
CLAK
CLAK
HER PULSE IS STILL DROPPING
BIP
BIP
BIP
BIP
ANOTHER PINT OF BLOOD.
CLICK
CLIP
HER PULSE IS STILL GETTING WEAKER

NOW WHAT?
HEE HEE
EVEN YOUR HAIR IS EXACTLY LIKE IT USED TO BE.
IT'S UNBEARABLY FUNNY.
HUMPH!
IT'S NOT FUNNY IN THE LEAST!
YOUR FATHER WAS NEVER HAPPY ABOUT HOW LONG YOUR HAIR WAS. HE WAS CONSTANTLY BERATING YOU TO HAVE IT CUT.
I DARE SAY HE WOULD APPROVE OF ITS LENGTH--OR LACK OF--NOW.
PRATTLING ON TILL THE END, I SEE.

YOUR TEA, SIR.
UH-HUH.

WHY DON'T YOU TRY TO HANG IN THERE?
DO STOP ASKING THE IMPOSSIBLE.
HAVE A SEAT.
IT'S ANYTHING BUT PERFECT
WOULDN'T YOU SAY IT'S PERFECT NOW?
WE COULDN'T HAVE A WEDDING, BUT AT LEAST WE CAN HAVE OUR FUNERAL TOGETHER.
IT WAS A NASTY THUMP TO MY HEAD.
I'M AFRAID I'M QUITE FRAIL NOW
HOW DARE YOU!
I'M NOT DYING "JUST LIKE THAT."
CHILDREN. GRAND-CHILDREN. YOU CAN'T DIE JUST LIKE THAT.
YOU HAVE TOO MUCH TO LIVE FOR.

I'M TAKING THIS DYING BUSINESS VERY SERIOUSLY.
BUT, I THINK I CAN GO TO HEAVEN FEELING SURPRISING-LY GOOD.
ISN'T THAT ENOUGH?
ISN'T IT?

IT MUST'VE BEEN RUINED.
YOU OFTEN PLAYED THIS FOR ME WHEN WE WERE YOUNG
AND YOU WERE QUITE THE CHARMER, TOO
FOR OTHER GIRLS
HEE HEE
"LA FILLE AUX CHEVEUX DE LIN"?*
MASTER, MY HAIR HAS LONG TURNED TO GRAY.
SEEING AS WE PAID THE PRICE
NO. IT'S NOT THAT OUT OF TUNE.
I'LL PLAY YOU A PIECE FOR SOMETHING TO TAKE WITH YOU.

* "THE GIRL WITH FLAXEN HAIR," BY CLAUDE DEBUSSY.

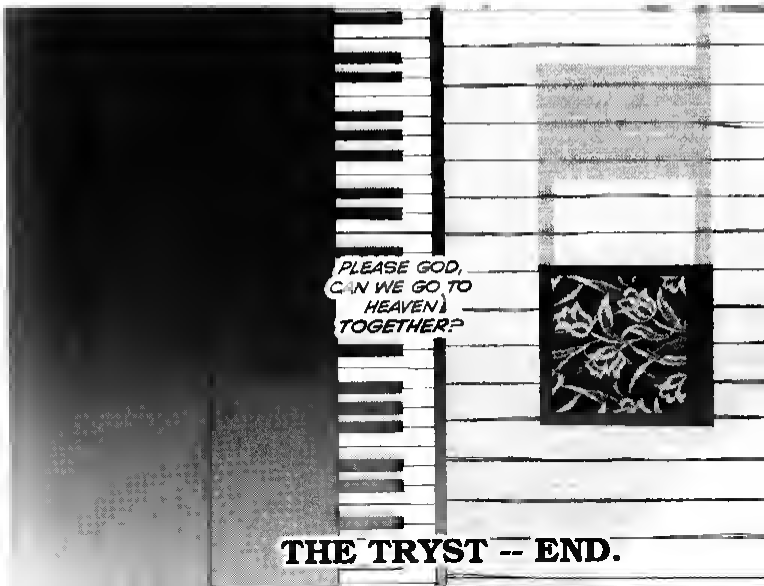
IT MUST'VE HURT.
NOBODY COULD HAVE SAVED ME MASTER, YOU DIED IN VAIN.
HUMPH
I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING LEFT TO LIVE FOR.
I'VE LIVED LONG ENOUGH
WILL YOU JUST LISTEN?
YES

IT'S OVER
IT WAS SHORT--BUT VERY SWEET.

MY FIRST LOVE WAS SO VERY LONG AGO

I SHALL NEVER CRY ABOUT IT AGAIN. NOR WILL I THINK ABOUT IT AGAIN

STILL...




**THE TRYST -- END.**

No.
Date 1998 - 2001

**KUSAKAWA'S NOTES** *The records of "The Recipe for Gertrude" and others...*

## THE TRYST

*I'm a little partial to this one. It also won an award, and it came before my official debut story, which you might have read in volume one. My editor (an earlier one) helped me through it. It was my first time in print. It all began with a single drawing of a maid's outfit.*

*I was working part-time at a library at the time, so the train rides home were relatively quiet--and perfect for coming up with the dialogue. Back then, I was only able to do one page a day. It seems so long ago now. Around the same time, I applied for a regular job, but instead of "Dear So-and-so" in Japanese, I chose the wrong kanji and wrote "I adore philosophy." That, too, seems long ago. Needless to say, I didn't get the job.*

# THE STORIES

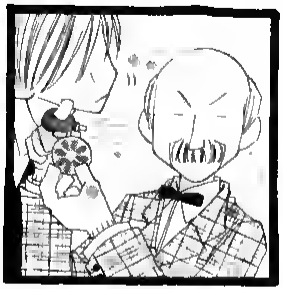
## The Recipe for Gertrude 5

I use a certain screen tone for when Gertrude casts a spell. So, you can imagine how much I panicked when I found out it was discontinued. However, I got through that one okay after I talked to the manufacturer and my editor.
As it turned out, the local stationery shop that I often go to had sheets and sheets of it. Maybe they knew, maybe they didn't. Later on, I found myself saying, "What? This one, too?" on more than one occasion.

## The Recipe for Gertrude 6

The tail Chelock is looking for doesn't look like a monkey's but like the one on the right. Really. Many people may have the impression it's supposed to look like a monkey's, but maybe it's because it's the way he's dressed.
I use a spiky looking screen tone for Mariotte.
Puppen's looks like the pattern used on rice bowls. I also draw bigger food servings for him. I did this one during summer, and I used to snap myself awake when I started getting sleepy near dawn by sucking on a certain frozen sweet. They don't seem to make the white ones anymore.

No.
Date 1998-2001



## The Recipe for Gertrude 7

I used to work part-time at a bookstore. You can see it in the way the storekeeper acts. The foppish old man is actually modeled on someone, but I made a lot of changes.
While I was shopping at a certain bookstore, this old man came up and started talking to me. He said he was a med school professor. Sure. He was constantly going on about "from a medical point of view." I wonder...

## The Recipe for Gertrude 8

My mother's been helping me. At first, it was really embarrassing when she'd read the dialogue. (It shouldn't have mattered because she'd eventually see it in the magazine.)
But for this story, I had her even erase the pencil lines in the kiss scene that comes at the end. With a deadline approaching, you can't afford to be embarrassed.

## Mariotte's Fan Club

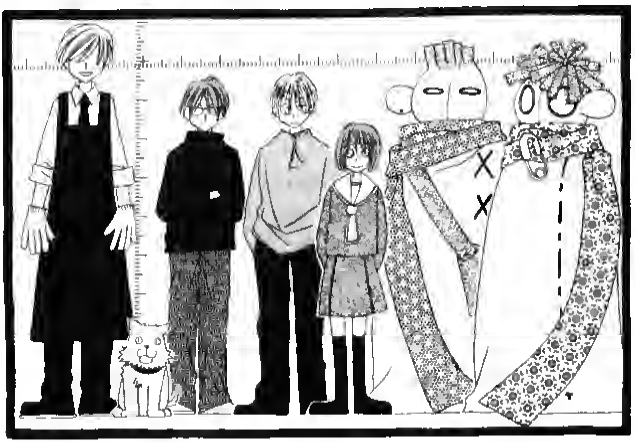
In the first volume, I wrote that Mariotte wasn't very popular. Well, since then I've received letters of support (for him) and letters asking how to join the club.
Anyone who introduces herself is welcome to join (ha ha).

No
Date 1998-2001

# Heights

| | |
|---|---|
| Gertrude | 5'11" |
| Sahara | 5'2" |
| Puppen About | 6' |
| Mariotte About | 6'2" |
| Sahara's brother | 5'10" |
| Encyclopedia Storekeeper | 6'8" |

*apart from Sahara's, most of these heights aren't properly reflected in the artwork (sigh). At first, I wanted to make the storekeeper 10 feet tall, but I made him shorter because he wouldn't fit into the panels.*
*Incidentally, he has huge eyes because he speed reads all the time (I'm assuming here). I gave him long fingers so that he can carry a lot of books.*



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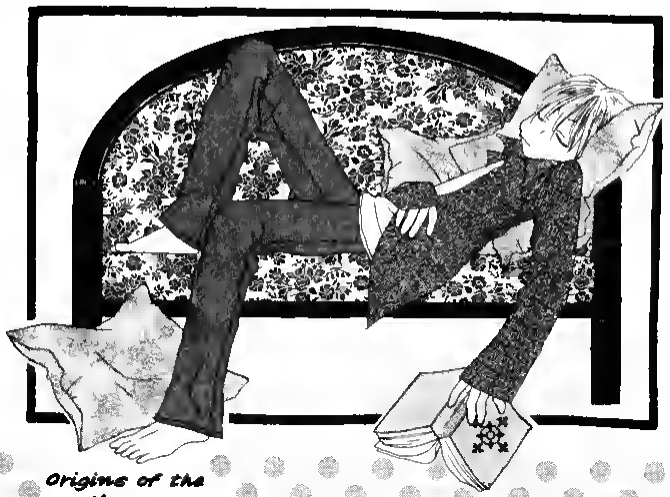


## Origins of the Names

**Gertrude** — A poet featured in a magazine. Maybe it was an author.

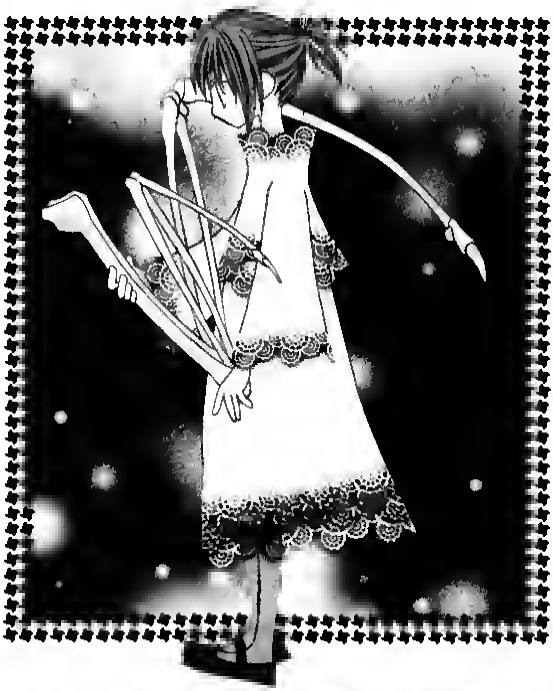
**Sahara Susugi** — The "Sahara" is from the Sahara Desert. I tried to come up with other names based on famous places that could be written in kanji. I gave up. "Susugi" comes from a different reading for the "So" kanji in Natsume Soseki (who was a very famous Japanese author).

**Puppen** — From the German word puppenspiel which means, one, to play with dolls and, two, a puppet play. I liked the way it sounded.

**Mariotte** — A twisting of marionette. There's also a hotel with the same name at the Nagoya train station.

**Kyusaku/ Claude** — "Kyusaku" is from both Yumeno Kyusaku, an author, and Shimada Kyusaku, an actor. We passed around a copy of Dogura Magura among several friends. I couldn't make heads or tails of it. The "Claude" is from Claude Monet, the painter.

No
Date 1998-2001



To the readers who've stayed with me,
To my editors and others who helped me get published,
To my family and friends,
To the liquor store staff where I do my photocopying,
Thank you very much

Kusakawa's notes -- End

THE ORIGIN OF GERTRUDE IS REVEALED!
FIND OUT WHAT IT IS IN JANUARY!

**By Nari Kusakawa**: With Gertrude injured, Sahara is forced to face her brother and Gertrude's creator by herself. Fearing for her safety, Gertrude is forced to recruit an old nemesis to aid Sahara. Will our favorite patchwork demon be able to pay the price of this bargain? The Recipe is almost within grasp, but first they will have to find out just how Gertrude came to be and how he got his name!

GERTRUDE NO RECIPE Vol. 3 © 2001 Nari Kusakawa/HAKUSENSHA, INC